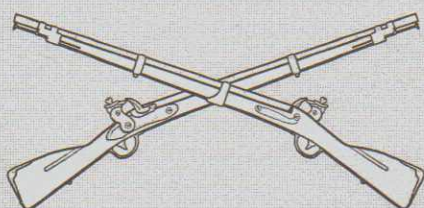




South Carolina Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans

The *Palmetto* Partisan

Official Newsmagazine of the South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans



Confederate Medal of Honor Presented to Sergeant Ballenger

In a grave-side ceremony on September 30th, 1995, the SCV posthumously presented the Confederate Medal of Honor to Sergeant Adam Washington Ballenger of the 13th South Carolina Regiment. Displaying outstanding bravery above and beyond the call of duty, Sergeant Ballenger single-handedly captured an enemy artillery piece during a battle known as Deep Bottom Run, fought north of the James River on July 28th, 1864.

The Ceremony, held in Inman South Carolina, was sponsored by the Sergeant Adam W. Ballenger Camp #68 of the SCV, recently organized in nearby Spartanburg. Over 200 people attended the ceremony, including

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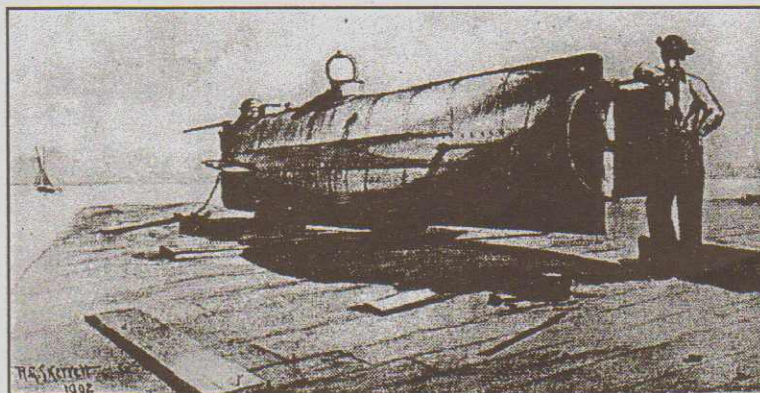
Compatriots Appointed To Hunley Commission Seats

Divers working for adventure novelist Clive Cussler announced several months ago that they had discovered the remains of the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley off the coast of Charleston. The South Carolina General Assembly moved quickly to protect it through legislation. First, by increasing the penalties for tampering with a historical wreck, and secondly, by creating a special state commission to oversee the project.

The commission is charged by the legislature to provide oversight of the project, make recommendations, and to give instructions to the Attorney General's office regarding legal action in the matter. All commissioners serve on a volunteer basis without compensation for expenses.

The first appointments to this blue ribbon commission have been announced. Of the nine commissioners, six are Compatriots of the South Carolina Division. The Governor's

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Staff Changes

There are some new faces on our Division Staff. Commander Sullivan wishes to thank those who have been willing to serve in various capacities.

One of the more notable changes is that of Vance B. Drawdy. After many years of faithful service to our Division and our cause, Vance has decided to step aside as Judge Advocate. Vance has been one of the pillars of our Division for almost three decades, and it was his dedication during the early years which kept us operating through some tough times. Past-Commander Drawdy deserves our thanks and congratulations.

Compatriot Kirk Fisher of the 16th Regiment Camp will be taking on the responsibilities of Judge Advocate. An attorney with the firm of Christian & Davis, Kirk was recently married to Miss Kate Stone of Conyers, Georgia. Mickey Smith, Commander of the Rivers Bridge Camp, will be taking on the job of Division Historian. Commander Smith is an emergency preparedness coordinator for the Savannah River plant.

Compatriot Jim Ridge has been appointed Aide-de-Camp to assist in coordinating activities between the Division and the Palmetto Battalion. Commander Ridge is Past-Commander of the John M. Kinard Camp and has served as Colonel of the Palmetto Battalion.

National Convention 1995

The 100th General Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans was held in Chattanooga Tennessee the last weekend in July 1995. In addition to the ordinary transaction of business, the delegates were treated to several excellent tours, dinners, and programs.

The most significant development was the decision by the city officials to order the removal of a Confederate Battleflag from a pole in front of the convention center where the plenary sessions were taking place. This decision brought a swift reaction from SCV delegates and officials which has been well reported.

The Palmetto State was well represented at the convention. Almost all Camps sent delegates and several South Carolinians received national recognition or awards.

CINC Dasinger called on SC Division Commander Christopher Sullivan to present a report on the developments regarding recent efforts to keep the Battleflag flying atop the Statehouse dome in Columbia.

The crowd gave two standing ovations to the SC Division for having successfully kept the colors aloft. The SC Division also presented a print called "Southern Statements" (seen in photo below) to the Commander-in-Chief for display at GHQ. The print, which was donated by Compatriot Hugh Means, shows the Statehouse with the three flags above the dome. It also has a vignette on each side, one of the flags and the other of the Confederate Monument.



Mickey Smith (left) accepts award from SCV CINC Norman Dasinger on behalf of the Rivers Bridge camp of Fairfax SC for the distinction of having the highest recruitment numbers for 1994-1995.

Hunley Cover Story

office has agreed that the SCV should receive disproportionate representation on this panel because the Hunley is now a tomb for her Confederate crew.

Four Compatriots on Panel

Because the law requires legislative appointments to be incumbent legislators, we are pleased to see that four of our Compatriots in the General Assembly will be serving on this panel. These members are Representatives Rick Quinn (Wade Hampton), Dan Cooper (Jeff Davis), Senators John Courson (Wade Hampton), and Glenn McConnell (Secession).

The Governor has appointed Division Commander Christopher Sullivan and Division 2nd Lt. Commander Randy Burbage. These appointments give the SCV substantial clout to ensure that the H.L. Hunley and her crew will be cared for with dignity and respect. Senator McConnell serves as Commission Chairman and Commander Sullivan is Vice-Chairman.

The remaining commissioners are: retired U.S. Navy Rear Admiral William Shachte, Senator Ernie Passilague, and Representative Harry Hallman, all of Charleston.

Commission Meetings

The Commission has already held several meetings at which substantial progress has been made towards securing the site and remains while simultaneously wading through all the surrounding hype.

Mr. Lee Spence of Charleston, who claims to have discovered the H.L. Hunley several years ago, has conveyed his claim to title to the State of South Carolina. A bill has been introduced in the United States Congress that will give South Carolina exclusive jurisdiction and control of the vessel; essentially a quitclaim deed. This bill is pending in committee.

Additionally, Commander Burbage is working with other Compatriots of the Secession Camp to plan a proper reinternment of remains if any veterans are recovered.

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Medal Cover Story

SCV leadership and compatriots, UDC representatives, re-enactors, and local dignitaries. The camp was able to locate nearly all of Sergeant Ballenger's living descendants, and over a hundred attended the ceremony. Some still live



in the Inman area, while others came from as far away as Oregon, Texas, Alabama, and Kentucky.

A grandson of Sergeant Ballenger, Baxter Morgan Haynes, was one of the featured speakers at the ceremony. Mr. Haynes, who clearly remembers his grandfather, gave several reminiscences, such as the time his grandfather rose out of a theater chair to *urge the Confederates on* during the 1910 D.W. Griffith movie, *The Birth of a Nation*.

Re-enactors from the 2nd and 13th SC Volunteers served as honor guard and color guard, giving a twenty-one gun salute following the presentation of the medal. The Campobello SC chapter of the UDC presented a wreath. And finally, Compatriot Terry Grissop sang *Dixie* solo at Sergeant Ballenger's grave, a deeply moving moment.

—Wright Sullivan

SC Camps Elect Officers for '96

At press time several South Carolina Camps had held elections for officers during the latter part of 1995. The Wade Hampton Camp of Columbia conducted elections in November. Life Member Bill Hollingsworth was elected Commander and Burl Kennedy was elected Adjutant. Compatriot Hollingsworth, a Major in the U.S. Army Airborne, regrettably submitted his resignation for the post shortly after the election. His Army Reserve unit has been ordered up for a nine-month deployment in the former Yugoslavia.

The Secession Camp of Charleston braved cold weather for their annual Christmas party and Camp elections December 10th. Compatriot Bill Creech of Mt. Pleasant won a narrow election as Commander and Joe Davis was successful in a three-way race for Adjutant.

In Sumter, the men of the P.G.T. Beauregard Camp have elected Max K. Jackson Commander and Ronnie Galloway Adjutant.

Compatriot Kirk Fisher became the sixteenth Commander in the thirty-year history of the 16th Regiment. Lloyd Turner was elected 1st Lt. Commander, and other Camp officers were reelected.

Hunley from page 3

Attorney General Charles M. Condon and his staff have worked diligently to produce expert legal research regarding the history and ownership of the vessel.

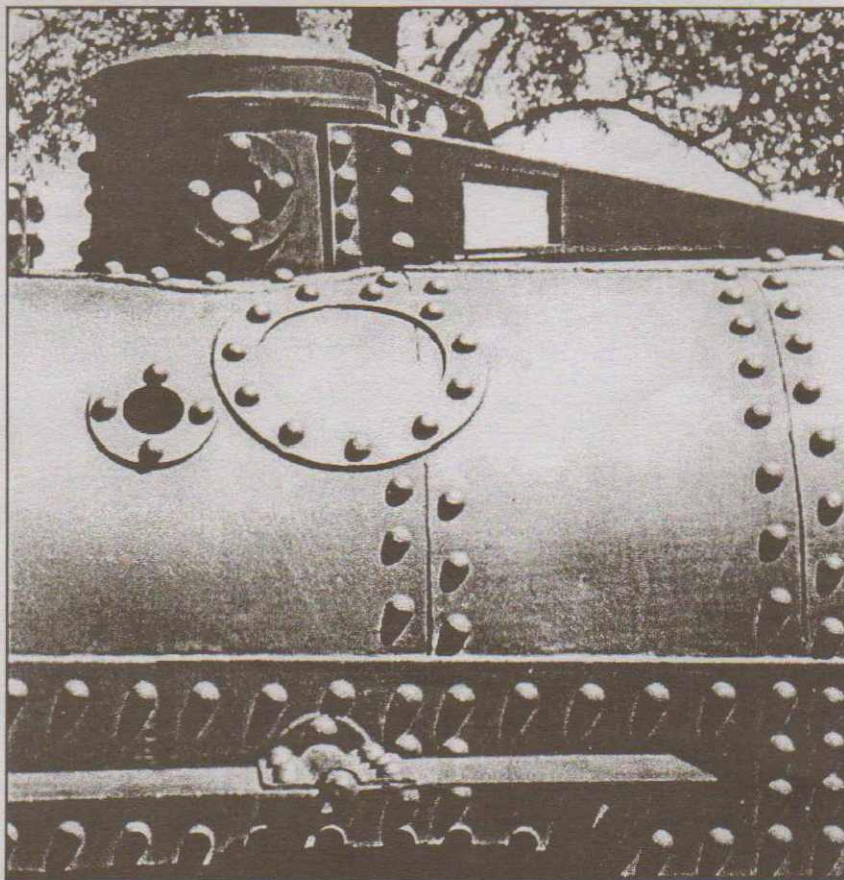
At present, the government of the United States claims title and ownership to everything that ever belonged to the Confederate States of America and the armed forces thereof. Thus, despite the Hunley having been built with private funds, operated by a foreign power, and having rested undisturbed in the waters off South Carolina for well over a century, the U.S. Navy now claims to be the sole and single owner. If the vessel is raised, then it no doubt will

come under the control of the Navy.

There are various opinions about what this means. The Naval Historical Center insists that they do not wish to see the boat removed from the environs of Charleston and would concede some sort of limited control to the state. It is the nature of those limitations that concern some members of the Commission.

During the initial meeting of the Commission a representative of the Patriots Point museum testified about their relationship with the Navy. He pointed out, that as the collec-

See Hunley page 6



SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION

PREORDERS ONLY
THERE WILL NOT BE ANY
SOLD AT THE REUNION.



ORDERS MUST BE
RECEIVED NO LATER
THAN FEB. 16, 1996

GREAT TO WEAR IN
RICHMOND IN 1996

1896 - 100 YEARS - 1996

Commemorative baseball caps and golf shirts are being made for the 1996 South Carolina Division's Reunion / 100th Anniversary. These will be available only for a limited time, so you must order before February 16, 1996. Orders are to be pick up at the reunion. If someone is picking up your order you must let us know who it will be. None will be shipped.

The baseball caps are white with a navy blue bill and are solid cloth. It does not have the mesh back.

The golf shirts are gray, 50/50 shirts with a pocket. The logo will be over the pocket.

The logo at the top of this page is the design and approximate size.

The SCV Seal and type will be embroidered in color: Red, White, Blue and the "100 YEARS" in Gold.

(They will not be screen printed.)

Caps and Shirts are of high quality and made in the USA.

THE ORDERS ARE TO BE PICKED UP AT THE 1996 STATE REUNION, NO SHIPPING.

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
CAMP NAME _____ CAMP NUMBER: _____

CAPS # _____ X \$16.00 EACH= \$ _____
SHIRTS:
SMALL # _____ X \$26.00 EACH= \$ _____
MEDIUM # _____ X \$26.00 EACH= \$ _____
LARGE # _____ X \$26.00 EACH= \$ _____
XL # _____ X \$26.00 EACH= \$ _____
XXL # _____ X \$27.00 EACH= \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

MAIL ORDERS TO:

JAMES KAISER, QUARTERMASTER
15TH REGIMENT SC VOLS. CAMP 51
546 RAWL ROAD
LEXINGTON, SC 29072-8954

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
15TH REGIMENT SC VOLS.

QUESTIONS: (803) 359-6323

Hunley from page 4

tion of modern military aircraft displayed aboard the U.S.S. Yorktown grew, the Navy changed its policy from one of indefinite loan to a five-year grant. Thus, we are never more than five years away from losing the entire collection at Patriots Point. The significance and quality of the collection at Patriots Point as compared to that at the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola was cited as the Navy's motivation for this policy change.

It also has been pointed out that the Navy is currently developing a museum in Northern Virginia. Concern has been expressed that in the future the Hunley may be reclaimed for display there.

The Commission traveled to Washington DC on October 24th, 1995 to meet with Senators Strom Thurmond, Fritz Hollings, Representative Floyd Spence, and Dr. Bill Dudley (Naval Historical Center). Dr. Dudley, acting on behalf of the Navy, has refused all of South Carolina's efforts to gain control of the vessel.

During the meeting, representatives of the Navy persisted in questioning the state's delegation about their legal authority and the possibility of the Confederate flag flying at any future historical site for the Hunley. Only after Senators Thurmond and Hollings ex-

plained things to them, did they accept the commission's authority.

Senator Thurmond is Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Representative Spence is Chairman of the House National Security Committee. These two committees have primary responsibility for Defense Department appropriations. They are also both SCV Compatriots. Senators Thurmond and Hollings have a combined tenure of over 70 years.

Testimony was taken in depth at the second commission meeting. At this hearing Mr. Lee Spence of Charleston testified about his claim to have discovered the vessel in 1980. When he volunteered to consign his claim to the state Gen. Condon was ready with the appropriate paperwork.

Because of the necessity of keeping the location of the vessel secret, much of the commission's work has been done in executive session and cannot be disclosed. It has however, recently been revealed that the Navy has known the coordinates for the wreck for some time but has refused to share the information.

Currently the U.S. Coast Guard has declared a substantial area around the site to be an exclusion zone and has started regu-

lar patrols and surveillance to prevent looters and treasure divers from damaging the wreck.

The commission has asked the legislature for \$40,000 to finance an expedition by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) to verify the presumed coordinates and determine the condition of the boat. Several other state agencies are cooperating in this effort.

An official foundation also has been established to accept contributions. This should not be confused with other organizations that are also raising funds. If you have any questions about a particular organization please contact Cadres, Sullivan or Burbage.

—CM Sullivan

Confederate Memorial Day

The Statewide Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies will be held in Columbia SC on Saturday May 4th 1996

Location: Elmwood Cemetery

Time: 10:00 am

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1996 SC Division Annual Reunion
100th Anniversary
March 29 - 31, 1996



Ramada Hotel, I-77 & H/W #1
(803) 736-5600
Not in the City of Columbia

Registration Form

Please TYPE or PRINT

NAME: _____ GUEST: _____

ADDRESS: _____

S.C.V. CAMP NAME _____ CAMP # _____

TITLE OR POSITION: _____ REAL SON? YES ___ NO ___

REGISTRATION FEE (Includes Saturday Lunch)	\$25.00 Each	\$ _____
LATE REGISTRATION (after March 1, 1996)	\$30.00 Each	\$ _____
EXTRA GUEST FOR LUNCH	\$18.00 Each	\$ _____
SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET & PROGRAM	\$20.00 Each	\$ _____
ANCESTOR MEMORIAL (Deadline February 19, 1996)	\$ 5.00 Each	\$ _____
DISPLAY TABLES FOR S.C.V. CAMPS	\$15.00 Each	\$ _____
DISPLAY TABLES FOR OTHER BUSINESSES OR ORGANIZATIONS	\$30.00 Each	\$ _____
<i>Questions concerning tables? Call Wayne Roberts at 803-957-4420.</i>		
TOTAL	\$	_____

Please make checks payable to: 15th Regiment SC Volunteers Camp #51
1113 Pine Street, Cayce, SC 29033

Questions(?): Call Dennis Todd at 803-796-2407 or Sam Padgett at 803-957-1483

Room rates are \$58.00+tax (single or double). This will apply until two weeks before the convention so be sure to tell hotel you are with SCV when reserving room. (Limited number of rooms will be guaranteed up until two weeks before the convention.)

Ancestor Memorial Order Form

Memorials will appear in the program. Deadline February 19, 1996.

Ancestor's Full Name & Rank: _____

Ancestor's Company & Regiment _____

Your Name & Relationship: _____

Your SCV Camp Name & Number: _____

SCV Convention Deadline Looms

Planning for the 1996 South Carolina Division convention is well underway. The main session will begin at 9:00am Saturday March 30th, and conclude with a banquet that evening. There will also be a Sunday morning service.

In this edition are registration forms for those attending and for purchasing commemorative merchandise.

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